

ABSTRACT

Described are methods *in vitro* and *in vivo* which involve the use of
5 increased cyclin D2 activity to activate the cell cycle of cardiomyocytes as a
baseline measure and/or in response to stimuli. Also described are vectors useful
for these purposes, and cardiomyocyte cells exhibiting an activated cell cycle.
Transgenic cyclin D2 animal models are also described.